

ADDRESS TO THE DUBLIN BRIGADE

BY THE OFFICER COMMANDING.

Officers and men of the Dublin Brigade of the Army of the Republic.

The General Command wishes me to express to you its appreciation of your bravery and your loyalty to the Republic.

Unnatural enemies, brother Irishmen, yielding to the threats of Britain and resolved to disestablish the Republic, made war upon you, the soldiers of the Republic, hoping by force to compel us all to share the disgrace of their cowardly surrender.

The position in which our comrades were attacked involved us in an action, unsuited to our organisation and our equipment but, by a series of magnificent rear-guard actions, made glorious by the stand and heroic death of Cathal Brugha, the Brigade has been able to disengage almost intact in personnel and material.

Those who would make us bend the knee to England's King have suffered severely and they will now know that they will not be permitted to destroy the Republic or surrender our national independence with impunity.

We can now at once revert to the tactics which made us invincible formerly and which can now equally ensure that the Republic of Tone and Emmet, of Pearse and Connolly, of McSwiney and Barry, of McKee and Clancy and of Cathal Brugha will not be supplanted by an alien monarchy.

Your comrades throughout the country are similarly in arms, inspired by the example you have set and which has been made memorable by the heroic death of Cathal Brugha. The young manhood and womanhood of Ireland are with us. Some have been misled, but their eyes are opening and they will soon recognise that it is not the will of the Irish people but the will of Britain that seeks the destruction of the Republic.

Sacrifices have yet to be made, tortures may have to be endured, but the glorious manner in which you have faced the onslaught of the past week raises a great hope that it is beyond the power of any man to sell this nation as a vassal state.

(Signed)

OSCAR TRAYNOR.

O/C Dublin Brigade.